FAL. To wake a wolf, is as bad as to smell a fox.

CH. JUST. What! you are as a candle, the better part burnt out.

FAL. A wassel candle, my lord[6]: all tallow: if I did say of wax, my growth would approve the truth.

CH. JUST. There is not a white hair on your face, but should have his effect of gravity.

FAL. His effect of gravy, gravy, gravy.

CH. JUST. You follow the young prince up and down, like his ill angel[7].

FAL. Not so, my lord: your ill angel is light; but, I hope, he that looks upon me, will take me

[6] A wassel candle, &c.] A *tvassel candle* is a *large candle lighted up at a feast.* There is a poor quibble upon the word *wax*, which signifies increase as well as the matter of the honey-comb.

JOHNSON.

The same quibble has already occurred in Love's Labour's Lost, Act V. Sc. II.:

" That was the way to make his godhead tcfl#."

STEEVENS.

[7] You follow the young prince up and down, like his ILL ANGEL.] Thus the quarto, 1600. Mr. Pope reads with the folio, 1623.—"m7 angel." STEEVENS.

What a precious collator has Mr. Pope approved himself in this passage! Besides, if this were the true reading, Falstaff could not have made the witty and humorous evasion he has done in his reply. I have restored the reading of the oldest quarto. The Lord Chief Justice calls Falstaff the Prince's *ill angel* or genius: which Falstaff turns off by saying, an *ill angel* (meaning the coin called *an angel) is light;* but, surely, it cannot be said that he wants weight: ergo—the inference is obvious. Now money may be called *ill*, or *bad*,- but it is never called *evil*, with regard to its being under weight. This Mr. Pope will facetiously call restoring *lost puns*: but if the author wrote a *pun*, and it happens to be *lost* in an editor's indolence, I shall, in spite of his grimace, venture at bringing it back to light. THEOBALD.

" As *light* as a clipt angel," is a comparison

frequently used in the old comedies. So, in Ram-Alley, or Merry Tricks, 1611:

« «— The law speaks profit, does it not ?----------

" Faith, some *bad angels* haunt us now and then."

STEEVENS.